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BRITON HOME AFTER SWAP

Wynne Freed In Exchange
For Russian Spy

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(London Bureau of The Sun)

London, April 22 — Greville Wynne, freed in a dawn spy exchange with the Russians in Berlin, arrived back in London today — wasted and exhausted by eighteen months in Soviet prisons.

The 45-year-old British business man was released by the Soviet Union in exchange for Gordon Arnold Lonsdale, a top professional Russian spy who once lived in the United States.

Wynne, his hair cut short and his blue suit hanging baggily over his thin body, was taken almost immediately from Northolt Airport here to his home in the Chelsea district of London to see his wife and son.

Denials By British

Wynne ran through the gate in front of the house and embraced his wife, Sheila, 42, while his 11-year-old son, Andrew, looked on smiling.

The British Government has persistently denied that Wynne was a spy behind the Iron Curtain. The Foreign Office said today that Britain agreed to the exchange only for humanitarian reasons after hearing of Wynne's chronic illness.

Wynne had served some eleven months in Moscow prisons of the eight-year sentence he was given for spying. He spent another seven months awaiting trial.

Qualified British sources insisted again today that Wynne was "just a small business man who got into the fringes of espionage."

These sources maintained that Wynne was simply engaged in a kind of industrial spying that would not be considered espionage in Western countries.

But a top Russian official, Oleg

Penkovsky, was reported to have been executed for giving secrets to Wynne.

British sources still deny Wynne's guilt and call him "a comparatively innocent man."

But there is little doubt about the importance of the man the Russians obtained in the exchange: Lonsdale was identified by the American FBI as Conon Molody, 40, an important Russian spy who had once lived in California.

He was sentenced in March, 1961, to 25 years in prison for running an espionage network that successfully obtained secrets from the British naval base at Portland, southwest of London.

Two Americans

Four persons were sentenced with him and two of them were Americans who were later linked with Col. Rudolf Abel, the Russian spy exchanged by the United States for Gary Powers, U-2 pilot.

Facing reporters today at the airport, his face haggard and thin, Wynne said, "I feel like I look gentlemen."

He was examined by a doctor later and his health was said to be "as well as could be expected."

Wynne said the Russians had treated him "according to how they thought about matters."

Qualified sources said today that Wynne has a condition which requires certain specific foods which were not given to him by the Russians. Parcels sent from Britain were reportedly not delivered to him.

Opposes Trades

Britain does not believe in trading spies, for one reason because it might encourage the Russians to trump up charges against visitors who would later be used for trade purposes.

But the Foreign Office said today, "In this exceptional case, humanitarian motives should predominate."

British sources also said that the exchange took place after a Soviet initiative at an unofficial level.

But these sources acknowledged that the first official move was made by Britain April 7 and that the deal was made after that date.

Wynne, managing director of a British company formed to promote trade with the Soviet bloc, was first arrested in Budapest in November, 1962.

He was promptly whisked off to Moscow amid vociferous British protests about his treatment.

He was sentenced after a trial in Moscow last May.

Wynne said today that he was never told that he was coming home until he actually reached East Berlin before dawn today.

He went across at the Heerstrasse checkpoint at 5.35 A.M. Wynne and Lonsdale faced each other momentarily before being taken away on each side by security officials.

Mrs. Wynne was told about the impending exchange last night, but she calmly waited until this morning to tell her son.

Wynne said today that his new freedom was "absolutely wonderful" but that it came as "a complete and great surprise."

Wynne declined to comment

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